

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT PURSUANT TO
37 C.F.R. §§1.97-1.98

PATENT APPLICATION

Applicant(s): Yasuhiro UMEKAGE, et al. Docket No.: 29288.4600
Serial No.: 10/019,418 U.S. Filing Date: December 21, 2001
Group Art Unit: To be assigned Examiner: To be assigned
TITLE: FLOWMETER

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.97-1.98, the reference or references listed and identified on the attached PTO-1449 based form are being submitted herewith for consideration by the Examiner. A copy of the listed reference is included herewith.

The reference or references are being cited only in the interest of candor and without any admission that they constitute statutory prior art or contain matter which anticipates the invention or which would render the same obvious, either singly or in combination, to a person of ordinary skill in the art.

This Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is being filed under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3) as each item of information contained in this disclosure is being filed prior to the issuance of a first Office Action on the merits, and therefore no fee or statement is required. The references cited in this disclosure were also disclosed in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application. If Applicant has overlooked any fees, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to debit Deposit Account No. 19-2814 for the same. **A duplicate copy of this Information Disclosure Statement is enclosed for this purpose.**

If there are any questions concerning this IDS, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned. If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the United States Patent and Trademark Office is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule (with a petition if necessary) and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 19-2814.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 3/29/02

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Enclosures: PTO-1449
Patent copies

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